

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

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LB 1209

CLERK: Madam President, (LB) 1209 discussed this morning by the body. When the Legislature adjourned Senator Schrock had presented AM4436, that amendment is pending. (See AM4436 on page 1730 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Is there any discussion of the Schrock amendment? Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator (sic) Robak, just to remind the body of the amendment we are on, this is a body (sic) that reduces the permit fees for the producers who are coming in to have their operations permitted and it would eventually cut out a substantial portion of the revenues and either, one, force more General Funds to be used or simply reduce the program altogether. I don't think that it's appropriate at this time to take that kind of action. And again, everybody is free to vote as they see fit, obviously, but in terms of the compromises that were made earlier this was a critical matter that had already been compromised to the satisfaction, at least, of the large livestock groups that participated in the CLEAN Coalition. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Is there any further discussion of the Schrock amendment? Seeing none, Senator Schrock to close.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Madam President, members of the Legislature, this is a very simple amendment. It is not a deal breaker. It shouldn't be viewed as something that is onerous to the bill. If you wanted to control hogs in the state you lost your opportunity when you didn't support Senator Schmitt. But this bill deals with the permit fee. All I am asking is that come January 1, the year 2001, the fees be reduced in half. I don't think that's going to happen, but how else can you ensure that the fee structure is going to be discussed? I think this is the best way to do it. Senator Beutler believes that they industry should pay for the inspection fees and the regulation. I would say to you that we have a lot of industry in this state that has a lot of tax exemptions that the livestock people in this state don't have and I think it's appropriate that the expense for regulating livestock in this state be shared, not only by the producer but by the state of Nebraska. And I want to ensure